25

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

TO

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANCHESTER,

ON THE WORKING OF THE

MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARY.

OCTOBER 31st, 1855.

MANCHESTER:
PRINTED BY CAVE AND SEVER, PALATINE BUILDINGS, HUNT'S BANK.
1855.

The Free Public Library Committee present the following report:—

Your Committee submit the Third Annual Report of the working of the Free Library prepared by Mr. Edwards, and to which they venture to direct the careful attention and consideration of the members of the Council.

Your Committee entertain the hope that a careful perusal of this interesting Report will induce many of their fellow-citizens to manifest a more active interest in the progress and success of this valuable institution, and by increased liberality, either in contributions of money to be expended in the purchase of such works as are most required, or by the donation of such works as are suggested, lend their aid to your Committee in making the Library increasingly useful to those for whose benefit it is more especially intended.

Your Committee regret that they are unable to refer with entire satisfaction to the list of Donations contained in the Report now submitted. The total number of volumes presented during the year is but 645, and of these only 245 come from donors who are either resident in or connected with this City. The expenditure which is absolutely necessary for book-binding, for additional fittings, and furniture, and, generally, for the more thorough adaptation of the building to the experience which has been obtained of the public requirements, has unavoidably the effect of greatly diminishing the means which might otherwise have been available for the purchase of books. This fact makes it imperatively incumbent on your Committee to urge upon their fellow-citizens the contribution of books, more particularly for the Lending Department of the Library, the increasing demands upon which are rapidly deteriorating and wearing out the works that are more especially attractive and popular. Amongst those the donation of which would on this account be highly acceptable and useful, your Committee may enumerate the productions of our standard writers of fiction, such as Scott, Lytton, Dickens, and Thackeray, as well as those of the Classic British Novelists of an earlier day. Standard works in History and Biography of all dates, and good books on Practical Science and the Arts, of recent publication, are also eminently desirable, and the gift of any such will receive the Committee's most grateful acknowledgments.

Your Committee desire also to call attention to the list of books and pamphlets illustrative of the history and local affairs of this City and district, which Mr. Edwards has appended to his Report.

Your Committee are of opinion that it is highly important that the Free Library should be provided as fully as possible with works of this character, so that it may hereafter become a well supplied store-house of the materials of our local history; and they hope that the circulation of the list may lead to the contribution of many such works and documents, which, whilst of comparatively little value as isolated in the hands of their present owners, may go far towards filling up the many wants and imperfections of the existing collection.

On behalf of the Committee,

JOHN POTTER, *Chairman.*

Town Hall, November 30th, 1855.

REPORT.

§ 1. On the Issues of Books.

Mr. Edwards has the honour to report that the issues of books from the FREE LIBRARY during the year which ended on the 5th ultimo,—the third year of its working,—were as follows:—

	Vols.
1. To Readers in the Reference Department ...	66,261
2. To Borrowers in the Lending Department...	81,321
Total issue of the year.....	147,582

During this year the Library was open to the public on 298 days,—namely, for the whole day, on 292 days; and for part of the day, during the six days of Easter week. The average daily issue for the entire year is 495 volumes; namely, from the Reference Department, 222 volumes; and from the Lending Department, 273 volumes.

The issues of this year, as compared with those of the preceding years, shew a gradual though inconsiderable increase, in each department, as will be seen by the following comparative table:—

Years.	Issues in Reference Department.	Issues in Lending Department.	Aggregate Issue.	Average Daily Issue.
	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
First Year, 1852—3 ...	61,080	77,232	138,312	455
Second Year, 1853—4 ...	64,578	77,767	142,345	478
Third Year, 1854—5 ...	66,261	81,321	147,582	495
Total aggregate issue...	191,919	236,320	428,239	476

The average number of the volumes which, during the past year, have been *available for the service of readers*, may be estimated at 18,500 in the Reference Department, and at 8,000 in the Lending Department. It follows, that on an approximate *average* of the whole collection, each volume in the former department has been used somewhat less than four times; and each volume in the latter somewhat more than ten times. In the Reference Department, the class of books in which an *increased* demand (as compared with preceding years), has been most noticeable, is that of "POLITICS AND COMMERCE;" and also, but in a lesser degree, that of "SCIENCES AND ARTS." In the Lending Department, on the other hand, the first-named class has been in diminished demand (as compared with the first year), and the last-named has been stationary. The entire *increase*, indeed, in the circulation of the books of the Lending Department, belongs to works of fiction or amusement; as does also a portion, but a much smaller portion, of that in the Reference Department.

In the working of the Reference Department during the past year, there has been a very observable increase in the number of readers of the more educated classes; and especially of such as obviously read for purposes of study, research, and mental cultivation, rather than for mere amusement. In the Lending Department, the relative proportion of the better educated has also, in some degree, increased; but it does not appear that this increase has *there*, in any way, noticeably affected the character of the books in chief demand.

During the year, 2,521 vouchers have been received from applicants for admission to the LENDING DEPARTMENT. Of this number, 2,057 have been accepted, and 464 have been rejected for want of conformity with the regulations. Twenty-four vouchers have been withdrawn, and the tickets of fifty-two other borrowers have been cancelled for unduly detaining the books lent to them (without reasonable excuse), or for otherwise infringing the rules of the Library. The total number of persons admitted to the loan of books, from the opening of the Library to the end of the third year (exclusive of those whose tickets have been cancelled), is 8,850.

During the same period, 28 volumes appear to have been lost or seriously injured whilst in the hands of the borrowers. Of these, 18 volumes have been replaced or paid for by the borrowers themselves, and seven by their guarantees; the value of the remaining three volumes has not been recovered. In 214 cases of slighter injury to books, or their bindings, compensation has been made by the payment of small fines. The total number of volumes actually lost to the Library, since its opening, so far as has yet been ascertained, is *ten*, out of an aggregate issue, from the Lending Department, of 236,320 volumes. This statement is, of course, irrespective of the volumes which have been fairly worn out by the ordinary wear and tear attendant on constant circulation.

§ 2. ON THE ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

(*i.*) *By Donation.*

The principal donations received during the past year have been from Public Boards, and more especially from the Hon. the Commissioners of Patents, the Hon.

the Court of Directors of the East India Company, and the Regents of the University of the Stateof New York. The total number of volumes presented is 645.

The gift of the Commissioners of Patents comprises an entire series of the Specifications and Indexes hitherto published by their order, the particulars of which are as follows:—

1. The series of the Specifications of Patents of Inventions, commencing with the 1st October, 1852, when the present Patent Law came into operation. (The continuation of this series is duly received as published.)
2. A collection of all the extant Specifications of Patents of Inventions, relating to Fire-arms and Projectiles. This series commences with Puckle's Patent, dated May, 1718, and ends with Newton's Patent, dated December, 1853.
3. A collection of all the extant Specifications of Patents relating to Reaping and Mowing Machines. This series commences with Meares' Patent of May, 1800, and ends with Austin's Patent of September, 1853.
4. A collection of all the extant Specifications of Patents of Inventions relating to improvements in Fireplaces, Furnaces, and Boilers, intended for the economizing of fuel and the prevention of smoke. This series begins with Wright's Patent, of August, 1756, and ends with Morris' Patent, of June, 1852.
5. A series of Indexes to the Specifications of Patents, and the names of the Patentees, from the earliest dates to the end of the year 1854, in twelve volumes, octavo.
6. The Commissioners of Patents' Journal, from 7th January, 1854, to the present time.

The donation of the Court of Directors of the East India Company is one of great value and liberality. It includes many books printed in various parts of India, which are not usually purchasable in the market, and it usefully continues a collection of works on Anglo-Indian affairs already in the Library, on the gathering of which much pains has been bestowed. It also comprises the *Persian, Arabic, and English Dictionary* of Mr. Richardson and Sir Charles Wilkins; the *Sanscrit Dictionary* of Professor Monier Williams, the *Malay Dictionary and Grammar* of Mr. Crawford, Mr. Roebuck's *Collection of Persian and Hindustani Proverbs*, Professor Wilson's *Glossary of Judicial and Revenue Terms*, and his collection of Ancient Hindu Hymns, entitled *Rig-Veda-Sanhitá;* Captain Baird Smith's *Report on the Agricultural Canals of Piedmont and Lombardy*, with the volume of maps and plans appended to it; the remarkable work on the Daily Prayers and Ceremonial Rites of the Brahmins, recently edited by Mrs. S. C. Belnos; the works of Colonel Dixon, on Mairwara, and of Lieutenant Burton, on Sindh; and an extensive series of the Philosophical and Philological Tracts printed for the Benares College.

The Regents of the University of the State of New York have added to former gifts the important volumes of the *Documentary Colonial History* of that State, which have been recently published, under the editorship of Dr. O'Callaghan;

and a series of the *Senate Documents* and *Assembly Documents* of the State, for the last four sessions. The Smithsonian Institution at Washington has continued to present its *Contributions to Knowledge*, and other works. The donations of the public bodies which have thus been enumerated amount, in the aggregate, to 380 volumes. Of the donors of the remaining 265 volumes, the following is an alphabetical list:—

Name of Donor.	Description of Donation.	No. of Vols.
Albert Club, Committee of the	English Periodicals	63
Bazley, Thomas	Reports of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce	3
Bell, Dr. C. W.	Cast of Fillan's Bust of John Wilson	..
Bell, John Gray	Works on Local Topography, &c.	3
Birchall, Mr. (Hobart Town)	" Tasmania	3
Booker, Rev. John	" Local Topography	2
Brookes, W. C.	Ruskin's Lectures	1
Buckley, Samuel	American Documents	6
Clay, Rev. John (Preston)	Reports on Preston Gaol	2
Davidson, H. O.	Murray's Family Library	80
Deane, J. C.	Three Engravings	..
Dearden, James (Rochdale)	Oriental MSS.	2
Ellesmere, Earl of	Hakluyt Society's Publication	1
Fothergill, Benjamin	Dalton's Meteorological Chart	..
Gibbs, John	On Architecture	1
Guildhall Library, London, Committee of the	Catalogue of London Tokens	1
Harter, J. C. & Co.	Lowell Hydraulic Engineering	1
Historic Society of Lancashire	Proceedings	2
Hopkins, Thomas	On Atmospheric Changes	1
Hughes, E. J.	Treatise on Patent Laws	3
Jones, Thomas (Chetham Librarian)	Local Topography	1
Kay, Alexander	Tracts on Hulme's Charity	2
Law Library, Manchester, Committee of the	Catalogue of the Law Library	1
Literary and Philosophical Society (Liverpool)	Transactions	1
Do. Do. (Manchester)	"	2
Local Education Committee	A Series of Educational Maps and Pamphlets	..
Lowe, Thomas	Miscellaneous Books	3
Macdonald, George	Within and Without (a poem)	1
Nicholls, J. A.	Lecture on Public Health	1
Owen's College, Trustees of	Proceedings	1
Parnell, Mr. Councillor	Gold and the Gospel, Young's Southern World, London Quarterly Review, &c.	6
Payne, James	Miscellaneous Books	23
Potter, Alderman Sir John	Five Engravings, framed and glazed	..
Poyser, Anthony	Stewart's Philosophical Essays	1
Procter, Mr.	Gems of Thought	1
Rhodes, C. G.	Liber Scholasticus	1
Richardson, J.	Kett's "Emily"	3
Robertson, James	Six Months in America	1
Rook, J.	Quarterly Review	5
Rowbotham, J.	Institutionum Linguæ Turcicæ, libri 4	1
Royal Asiatic Society, Council of the	Journals of the Society	2
Shuttleworth, Mr. Alderman	Reports on Civil Service	2
Swallow, Charles	Chinese Testament, &c.	3
Taylor, Robert	View of Manchester and Salford, and Aikin's Manchester	1
United States Patent Office,	Reports	2
Webster, John (Aberdeen)	Burnett Treatises	3
Willis, Captain	Manchester Police Reports	1
Wisconsin Agricultural Society,	Transactions	2
Wood, William	An Engraving	..
Minor Donations (chiefly anonymous)	Miscellaneous Books	19
	Total Number of Volumes Presented	645

This list is, it may be hoped, a briefer one than will usually have to be submitted to the Committee. The valuable donations of Mr. Councillor Parnell and of Mr. H. O. Davidson, comprise almost the only presented works which have been of essential service in the *Lending* Department; yet there can scarcely be any appropriation of good books so pregnant with usefulness as that which would place them at the service of a circle of readers so extensive, and of whom a very considerable proportion have hitherto had but extremely restricted access to sterling English literature.

As heretofore, the NEWSROOM has been dependent on donations for its supply during the past year, and the following are the names of the donors, and of the papers and periodicals presented:—

Alderman Sir John POTTER,...	*The Times.* *The Daily News.* *The Moniteur* (during part of the year).
Nicholas HEALD, Esq.	*The Economist.*
Mr. Councillor PARNELL, ...	*The Watchman.* *The Wesleyan Methodist Magazine.* *The Christian Treasury.* *The Christian Miscellany.*
Messrs. G. & R. HOLT, ...	*The Nonconformist.*
The respective Editors or Proprietors, ...	*The Manchester Guardian* (two copies). *The Manchester Courier* (two copies). *The Manchester Examiner & Times* (three copies). *The Manchester Daily Times* (one copy). *The Manchester Weekly Advertiser* (two copies). *The Midland Counties Herald.* *The Old Church Porch.* *The Alliance* (four copies). *The Herald of Peace.*

From John LEIGH, Esq., Mr. R. MARTIN, and Dr. J. W. HUDSON, miscellaneous parcels of newspapers, both English and American, have also been received. A larger supply, it may be added, of London newspapers is much needed; and some additional provincial ones, especially those of Liverpool and Leeds, would be highly advantageous.

(*ii.*) *By Purchase.*

The number of volumes purchased during the year is but 704, exclusive of the continuations of periodical and serial works already in the Library. Of that number, 400 volumes were for the Lending Department, and 304 volumes for the Reference Department.

Some attention has been bestowed on the collection, from time to time, of books and tracts illustrative of the history and local affairs of Manchester, and of the neighbouring townships. Inquiry for such works has been of frequent occurrence in the Reference Department of the Library, and occasionally much

disappointment has been felt and expressed at the meagre supply of them which it has been able to afford. It will be apparent, however, from the chronological list of publications of this class which is appended to this Report, that a beginning has been made; and it is hoped that the circulation of the list may in some instances lead to the donation of books or tracts which are wanting, and in others, to the offer by booksellers of such as the Committee will gladly purchase, for the improvement of the collection. It will also deserve the Committee's consideration, whether an attempt might not usefully be made to form a series of local maps and prints, as well as of books. Such a combined collection would at once render important furtherance to the pursuits and inquiries of many of the present frequenters of the Library, and would hereafter prove to be a most valuable storehouse of materials for the history of the City and district.

The present contents of the Library, in both departments, are as follows:—

Class.	In Reference Department.	In Lending Department.	Totals.
	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
I. Theology	572	146	718
II. Philosophy	306	97	403
III. History	7,261	3,087	10,348
IV. Politics and Commerce	5,253	433	5,686
V. Sciences and Arts	1,954	636	2,590
VI. Literature and Polygraphy	4,702	3,814	8,516
Totals	20,048	8,213	28,261

§ 3. Progress of Arrangement, Binding, &c.

(*i.*) *Collection of Commercial and Political Tracts.*

The long task of the classification and arrangement for binding of the extensive collection of Tracts on Commercial and Political subjects—ranging in date from 1576 to 1850—has been brought to a close on the day of the date of this Report. It is not, as yet, practicable to give a full and adequate account of the collection, but an outline of its origin, its contents, and of the methods which have been followed in its arrangement may reasonably be expected.

The basis of this collection consists of a remarkable series of Tracts on Political and Commercial subjects, which was brought together towards the middle of the last century by Mr. Nicholas Magens,—a native of Denmark, and an eminent merchant of London. This collection continued in the Magens family, as a sort of heirloom, until the death of the late Mr. Dorrien Magens (well known as a London banker), when it was sold by auction. The commission given at the sale, on behalf of the Free Library, failed to secure it; and the entire series was purchased by Mr. Henry Stevens, of Vermont. It was ascertained, however, that Mr. Stevens' chief inducement to make the purchase lay

in a few tracts on the early Colonial History of America which the collection contained, and that after these had been taken out he would be willing to part with it. Mainly by the exertions of Mr. Crossley, who took very great pains to acquire for this Library a collection the worth of which few men can so well appreciate, such an arrangement was effected.

Several important purchases of Tracts on similar subjects had previously been made, at the sales of the respective libraries of Mr. Harrison, one of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; of Mr. Drummond Hay; and of the late Lord Langdale, Master of the Rolls; and also from the stock of the late Mr. Thomas Thorpe. Other considerable acquisitions of this kind have since been made, from the collections (amongst others) of the late Mr. William Mellish, M.P.; Mr. Edward Baines, M.P.; Mr. William Hill, of the Treasury; Mr. Francis Place; Mr. John Gibson Lockhart; Mr. Davies (formerly of Magdalen College, Oxford), and the late Viscount Valentia; and also from that which had been formed by John Perceval, Earl of Egmont,—one of the founders of the Colony of Georgia,—at about the same period as the Magens collection.

But the most considerable and most valuable of the recent accessions to the Tract collection is that for which the Committee were indebted, in 1852, to the liberality of their Chairman. It comprised 1,819 separate pieces, chiefly on political and commercial topics, and most of which had been collected by the late Lord Bexley, when Chancellor of the Exchequer. In this series are included many tracts and documents which were privately printed for the use of various departments of the Government, and many which, on other accounts, are both valuable and rare.

The entire series of Tracts—Miscellaneous as well as Political, but exclusive of printed *Collections*—extends to 15,019 separate works, and is arranged and bound in 2,576 volumes. Both the Magens and the Vansittart Libraries included many works on Politics and Trade, which, from their extent and bulk, cannot with propriety be termed *Tracts*, but are necessary to the completeness and proper sequence of the several subjects. This arrangement has therefore been continued.

About 360 Tracts (strictly so called) comprised in this series, relate to those local affairs of Manchester and the neighbouring district to which allusion has been made in a preceding section. The titles of all these are given in the Appendix. In the tabular enumeration they are of course included under the several divisions to which they respectively belong.

The main collection—that, namely, relating to Politics and Commerce—has been systematically arranged in 2,044 volumes, in the following order. The number of tracts or other works comprised in each section, and that of the volumes which contain them, are severally appended:—

TABLE I.

Class—POLITICS and COMMERCE.	No. of vols.	No. of Tracts, or of separate works.
1.—General Treatises on GOVERNMENT, POLITICS, or POLITICAL ECONOMY	77	119
2.—Constitution, Functions, and Privileges of PARLIAMENT	44	312
3.—LAW and Law Reform	88	367
4.—CRIME, Police and Punishment	46	190
5.—TRADE and COMMERCE:—		
§ 1. General Treatises	77	177
2. Agriculture and the Corn Trade	67	412
3. Coal and Iron Trades, Mining, &c.	11	116
4. Cotton, Woollen, and Silk Trades	33	178
5. Fisheries	7	59
6. Other branches of Trade and Commerce	120	801
7. Wages, Combinations, and Regulation of Labour	14	129
8. Industrial Exhibitions	14	534
6.—ANNUITIES, Assurance, Savings Banks, and Provident Societies	17	120
7.—CURRENCY, Banking, Interest of Money, &c.	96	542
8.—CHURCH Affairs	103	668
9.—MUNICIPAL and Local Affairs	28	337
10.—POOR and Poor Laws	79	302
11.—EDUCATION and PUBLIC CHARITIES	131	677
12.—ARMY and NAVY; PEACE and WAR	55	258
13.—PUBLIC WORKS and SANITARY Affairs	65	539
14.—Affairs of IRELAND in particular	49	258
15.—COLONIES and Dependencies:—		
§ 1. Affairs of British India	135	535
2. Colonial Affairs	78	340
3. Slavery	32	206
16.—REVENUE, Taxation, and Public Debts	140	722
17.—FOREIGN Affairs	148	702
18.—Miscellaneous Treatises on Political Questions and Public Affairs (other than those specially enumerated)	290	1,805
Total of Volumes and of separate Tracts in the Class POLITICS and COMMERCE	2,044	11,405
Add—Collections of Political Tracts on various subjects	78	2,153
Aggregate Total	2,122	13,558

It will be obvious, even from this bare enumeration of the principal contents of this collection of Political Tracts, that it is already one of great value to the student of British history, as well as to readers of all classes who may desire to attain a competent knowledge of important public questions, or of the growth and progress of our national commerce. Compared, indeed, with the vast collections of this kind which are preserved in the British Museum, and in two or

three other of the great national libraries of Europe, it may seem, in point of extent, almost trivial. There can, however, be no doubt that it is already the most valuable series of tracts on the subjects which it embraces that is to be found in any part of the United Kingdom, with the single exception which has been indicated. But its public utility will manifestly depend on the supply of its deficiencies from time to time, as opportunity may offer, and on the regular addition to it, year by year, of a systematic selection of the best pamphlets and treatises on political and commercial matters which may come from the press.

The miscellaneous portion of the collection extends, more or less, over all the other classes of the Library. It is comprised in 532 volumes, containing 3,614 separate tracts, the general arrangement of which is as follows :—

TABLE II.

Class.	No. of vols.	No. of separate Tracts.
THEOLOGY	84	623
PHILOSOPHY	20	95
HISTORY :—		
Biographical Tracts (British and Foreign)	103	686
Other Tracts relating to British and Foreign History and Topography	101	600
SCIENCES and ARTS :—		
Medical Tracts	22	169
Tracts on other branches of Science and Art	70	553
LITERATURE and POLYGRAPHY	132	888
Totals	532	3,614

There are also, in addition, 317 tracts belonging to the several classes above enumerated, contained in the various printed collections which the Library possesses ; making an aggregate total, in those classes, of 3,931 separate tracts.

(*ii.*) *Collection of Parliamentary Reports, &c.*

Considerable progress has also been made with the classification and binding of the Parliamentary Reports and Papers, but much remains to be done.

With reference to this section of the Library, Mr. Edwards solicits the attention of the Committee to the desirableness of some steps being taken to ensure the carrying out of the Resolution which was reported to the House of Commons, in 1853, by its Select Committee on the Distribution of Parliamentary Papers, and which was thus expressed :—

> "Wherever Free Libraries are established, your Committee recommend that upon application from the managing body, the Parliamentary Papers should thereupon be sent to them, free of all charges, immediately upon publication."

The lamented decease of the Chairman of this Committee (the Right Hon. Henry Tufnell) was the first impediment which came in the way of direct action upon the Report, and the fact that the Select Committee had taken a broader and juster view of the requirements of the matter in hand,—as evidenced by their recognition of the claims of Free Libraries, supported by Rate and managed by Town Councils, to the *first* place in any such distribution, —than had been taken of them by some of those who had originally promoted the inquiry, has proved to be another and a serious hindrance. But it cannot be doubted that any influential member who may be induced to put his hand earnestly to the task, will soon obtain the result which is desired. The Reports and Papers of the House of Commons are of themselves worth some effort. In this Library they will be more valuable than in many others, both as serving to continue the considerable collection which it already possesses, and as supplementing the information on Political and Commercial subjects which is contained in the Tract Collections already described. Much use has already been made of the Parliamentary Papers, notwithstanding the difficulties arising from their but half-arranged condition. And those who have used them, being readers having a studious and serious purpose in their inquiries, are precisely those to whom it is most important that the Reference Department of the Library should be made as useful as possible. Much disappointment has been experienced by readers of this class at the stop which has been put to their investigation of a series of Reports or Papers as soon as they had reached the year 1851 or 1852—and on some subjects at a much earlier date. But the importance of the proceeding which has been suggested for the Committee's consideration is by no means limited to the Papers of Parliament. Other works of great value and extent are printed at the public cost, and their distribution to public institutions, or their non-distribution, appears at present to depend on accident or caprice, rather than upon any known and intelligible rules. Some of these works are under the control of the Master of the Rolls; others under that of the State Paper Commission; others again under that of the Lords of the Admiralty, of the respective Secretaries of State, or of the Board of Ordnance. Amongst them are Collections of State Papers, and of the Documents of our early history, such as the *Monumenta Historica Britannica;* Reports of the various scientific officers and naturalists who have accompanied H.M. Ships on Voyages of Discovery, and Narratives of such Voyages; Collections of Astronomical Observations; and the various publications connected with the Ordnance and Geological Surveys of the United Kingdom. These would be most important acquisitions for this and for other Free Libraries; and there appears to be reason to believe that some of those very works which are most desirable and, at present, least accessible, are embarrassing the official warehouse keepers by the weight and bulk of the stock in hand.

(*iii.*) *Bookbinding; Sale of Catalogues, &c.*

The total number of volumes bound during the year is 2,169; namely, for the Reference Department 1,167, and for the Lending Department 1,002; and the total number repaired, lettered, or press-marked, 445; namely, for the Reference Department 265, and for the Lending Department 180. The aggregate number of volumes bound since the opening of the Library to the public is 10,770; and that of the volumes repaired, lettered, or press-marked, 2524; making a gross total of 13,294 volumes. The average cost of the binding, all sizes included,—and there is in this Library a larger number of folios and quartos than might be expected from its date,—has been two shillings and threepence per volume.

The sale of the printed Catalogue of the Lending Department during the year has been as follows:—

	No. of Copies.
Of complete Copies.....	346
Of Section No. 1.....	85
" " " 2.....	119
" " " 3.....	102
" " " 4.....	48
" " " 5.....	138
" " " 6.....	97
Total of separate Sections	589

The total sale, since the publication of the Catalogue, is, of complete copies, 826; and of copies of the various sections, 1,217; and the total produce of such sale, £42. 1s. 4d.

(*iv.*) *Exhibition of Diagrams of Patented Machinery, &c.*

Early in the Summer, a public Exhibition was made of a collection of Diagrams illustrative of Patent Inventions in three several classes: I. Reaping and Mowing Machines; II. Fire Arms and Projectiles; III. Improvements in Fireplaces, Furnaces, and Steamboilers, having in view the Economizing of Fuel and the Prevention of Smoke. The collection extended in the first class to 55 sheets of diagrams, illustrative of 38 several inventions, twenty of which were the subjects of patents, and eighteen had not been patented; in the second class, to 158 sheets of diagrams, illustrative of 101 patents; and in the third class, to 141 sheets of diagrams, illustrative of 109 distinct patents. The Exhibition was visited, during twenty-four days, by 3,115 persons, and it led to a very noticeable increase in the number of readers

1683.

Sermon Preached at MANCHESTER, upon the 9th of September, being the Day of Thanksgiving for...delivery from the late Conspiracy. By E. FORENESS. 8vo. *London: Miles Fletcher.*

1716.

est from Rebels...considered in a sermon, most of which was preached at a Provincial Assembly of Ministers, held at MANCHESTER, May 8, 1716. By James GRIMSHAW. 8vo. *London.*

The history of Saul and David, and the xiiith of Romans, considered in a Thanksgiving Sermon, preached at MANCHESTER, November 14, 1716, at the request of the young men there, who were minded to commemorate...the victory...at Preston, Nov. 14, 1715. By Jeremiah ALDRED, V.D.M. 8vo. *London: Eman. Mathews.*

1717.

7. The jure divino woe, exemplify'd in the remarkable punishment of persecutors, false teachers, and rebels: a Thanksgiving Sermon preached at MANCHESTER, Nov. 14, 1717. [With an address "To the young gentlemen of the Protestant Dissenting Congregation at Manchester," and an appendix on the penal laws affecting Dissenters.] By Charles OWEN. 8vo. *London: Eman. Mathews.*

1721.

8. The Bishop of Chester's Case, with relation to the Wardenship of MANCHESTER, in which is shewn that no other degrees but such as are taken in the University, can be deemed Legal Qualifications for any Ecclesiastical Preferment in England. Folio. *Oxford: printed at the Theatre.*

1749.

9. MANCHESTER Vindicated, being a complete collection of the papers lately published in defence of that town in the Chester Courant, &c. 8vo. *Chester: E. Adams.*

1753.

10. A collection of Acts of Parliament, relating to MANCHESTER and the adjacent townships, from 26 Geo. II. (1753), to 1 Vict. (1837), containing as follows:—]

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